

Quantum Mechanical Modeling of Ballistic MOS


A. Svizhenko, M. P. Anantram & T. R. Govindan

NASA Ames Research Center
Moffett Field, California

(4/2/2001)

Overview

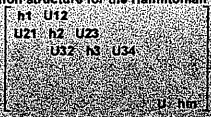
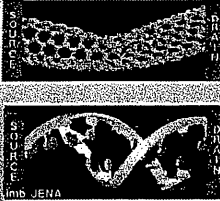
- Develop theory, approximations and computer code to model quasi 1D structures such as nanotubes, DNA & MOSFETs*



- Nanotubes: Influence of defects on ballistic transport. Electro-mechanical properties. Metal-nanotube coupling.
- DNA: Model electron transfer (biochemistry) and transport experiments. Sequence dependence of conductance
- MOSFETs: 2D doping profiles. Poly-silicon depletion. Source to drain and gate tunneling. Under and ballistic limit

Similarities

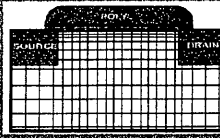
- Source-drain, gate electrodes
- Layered structures
- Common structure for the Hamiltonian

- Current transmission and electron density

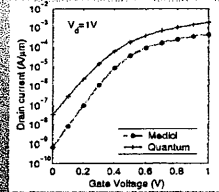
Differences

- What are h & U?
- Tight-binding
- Huckel
- Quantum chemistry
- Effective mass
- Solving Schrödinger equation



Outline

- What effects are modeled?
- Equations & computational requirements
- Specific Structures considered



- Drain current vs. Gate voltage of a well-tempered MOSFET
- Polysilicon depletion effect
- Ballistic Transmission versus Energy
- Modeling of gate tunneling

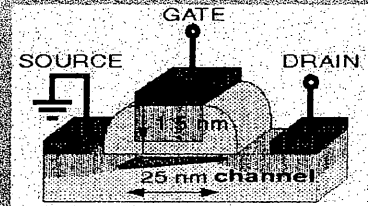
Model

Neglected:

- Discrete nature of dopant distribution
- Electron-Impurity and electron-electron/phonon scattering
- n-MOSFETs
- Band-structure

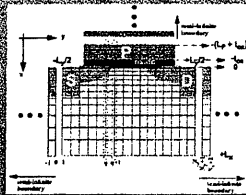
What do we model

- Anisotropic effective mass equation for electrons
- Carrier injection at source, drain and gate open boundaries
- Ballistic transport
- Source to Drain tunneling
- Gate Tunneling
- Non Equilibrium Green's function equations (Schrodinger-Poisson solver at finite biases)



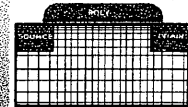
Equations

- Equations for retarded (G^r) and less-than ($G^<$) Green's functions:
- $(E - H - \Sigma^r) G^r(r, r', E) = \delta(r - r')$
- $(E - H - \Sigma^<) G^<(r, r', E) = \Sigma^r G^r(r, r', E)$
- $(E - H - \Sigma^<) G^<(r, r', E) = \Sigma^< G^<(r, r', E)$
- Σ^r represents self-energy due to open boundaries and other scattering mechanisms
- $\Sigma^< = U \cdot g \cdot \text{surface} \cdot U$
- Poisson's equation



Computational requirements

- $(E - H - \Sigma^r) G^r(r, r', E) = \Sigma^r G^r(r, r', E)$
- Electron density at $r = G^r(r, r', E)$ - Required repeatedly in Poisson's equation
- LHS is Block tridiagonal matrix
- Block size = N_x
- We require only the diagonal elements of G^r
- Developed an algorithm to solve for the diagonal blocks of G^r
- Number of operations = $NE^2 N_x^2 N_y$
- NE - no. of energy grid points, $(N_x N_y)$ - no. of spatial grid points
- For $N_x = 75$, $N_y = 350$ - 45.10 operations
- This is the bottleneck in solving calculations with correct models of scattering (elastic, inelastic)
- Challenge: To obtain the diagonal elements



Results

Drain current ($A/\mu m$)

$V_d = 1V$

Smaller slope in quantum case

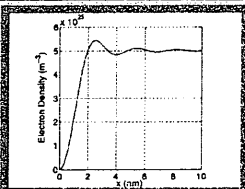
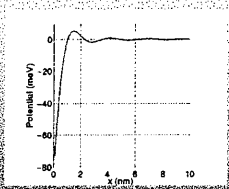
Ballistic current

Legend:

- Medici
- Quantum

Gate Voltage (V)

Polysilicon Depletion

$$n(x) = \frac{1}{2\lambda} \left[1 - \frac{\sin(2kx)}{(2k\lambda)} - \frac{1}{2} \frac{\cos(2kx)}{(2k\lambda)} \right]$$

$$V(x) = \frac{q}{\epsilon_0 \epsilon_r} \left[\frac{1}{2k} \frac{\sin(2kx)}{(2k\lambda)} - \frac{1}{4} \frac{\cos(2kx)}{(2k\lambda)} - \frac{1}{4} \sin(2kx) \right]$$

Poly silicon depletion

- Significant difference: conduction band in polysilicon band down in quantum case. How does this change as E field in the oxide is added?
- Doping: 10^{19} cm^{-3} (N) vs. 10^{17} cm^{-3} (P) vs. 10^{18} cm^{-3} (N)
- Conduction band in the channel is pulled down

Polysilicon depletion – Effect on off-current

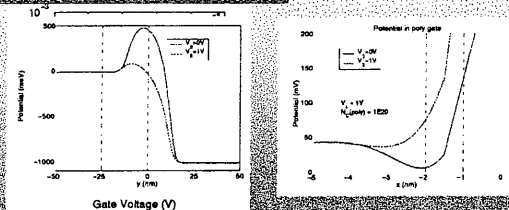
The figure consists of two side-by-side plots of Drain current (A/cm) versus Gate Voltage (V) for $V_d = 1V$. Both plots compare the Medici model (dashed line with circles) and the Quantum model (solid line with circles).

Left Plot: Shows the effect of polysilicon depletion. The Quantum model (solid line) has a significantly higher off-current (at $V_g = 0V$) than the Medici model (dashed line), which is approximately 30 times larger.

Right Plot: Shows the effect of neglecting band bending in the Quantum model. The Quantum model (solid line) has a lower off-current than the Medici model (dashed line), indicating that neglecting band bending leads to a smaller off-current.

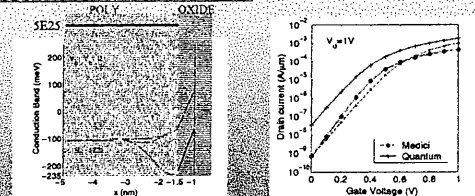
- 30 times larger off-current at room temperature
- Neglecting band bending in the gate polysilicon region yields smaller off-current
- A shift in the gate voltage by ΔV_g yields accounts for the off-current, but the off-current is reduced by $20 \times - 10 \times$

Polysilicon depletion – Effect on on-current



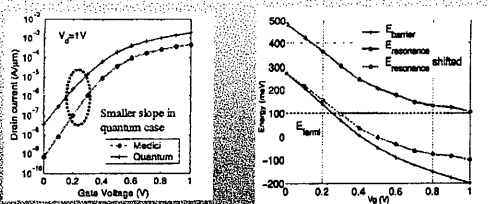
- Band bending in polysilicon gate depends on both gate bias and doping profile along y.
- The source injection barrier moves towards the source by a large fraction of the channel length when a gate voltage is applied.
- The conduction band near source injection barrier depends on both the doping profile along y and the gate bias.
- A V_t shift by 1V at V_g of 1V corresponds to a change by 20% in I_{on} .

Polysilicon depletion – Effect of tapered gate polysilicon



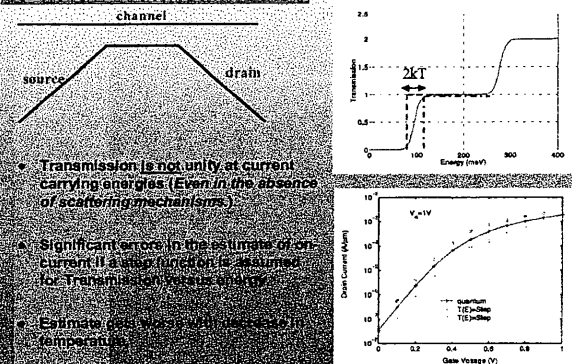
- At doping density of SE25 cm⁻³ one depletes from pol (1.3nm) box.
- Some experimental reports that dopants near oxide may not be activated.

Resonant Levels

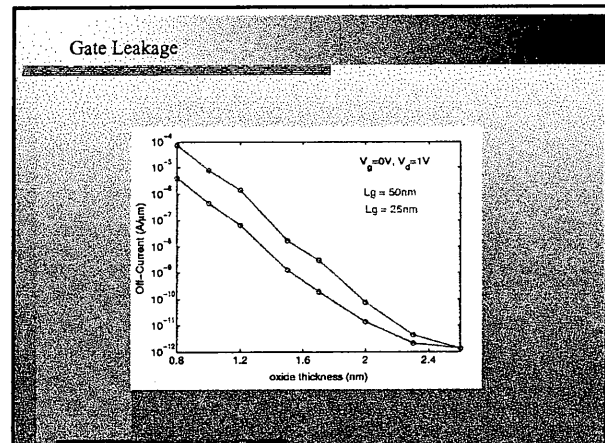
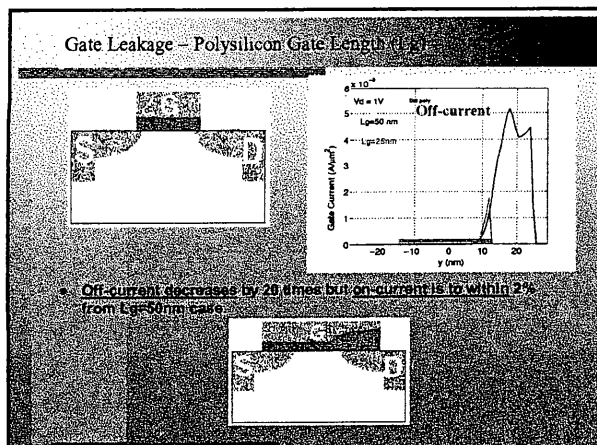
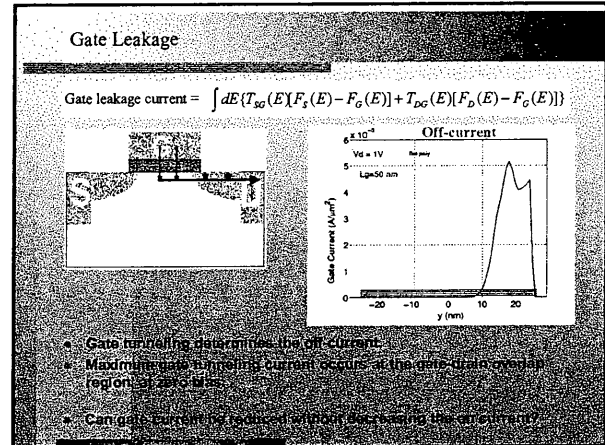
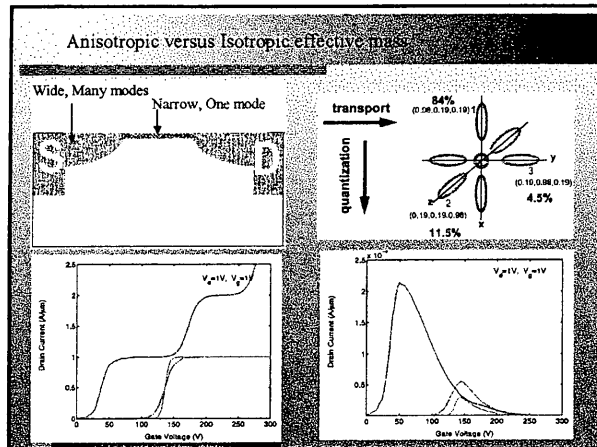


- Resonant levels decrease slower than barrier height with gate bias.
- Resonance – Fermi level = μ (eV).
- Classical μ = $kT \ln(I_{on}/I_{off})$.
- Quantum μ = $kT \ln(I_{on}/I_{off})$.

Transmission & Ballistic Transport



- Transmission is not unity at current carrying energies (Even in the absence of scattering mechanisms).
- Significant errors in the estimate of on-current if a step function is assumed for Transmission near Fermi level.
- Estimate gets worse with increase in temperature.



Future Challenges:

- Increased role of tunneling and quantized levels in the channel of nanoscale MOSFET requires a better treatment of bandstructure
 - project underway: applying the 2D code to study transport in CNT with 4-orbital tight-binding Hamiltonian, which looks structurally the same
- Quantitative models for scattering are required
 - scattering time comparable to flight time
 - discretization of kz -space
- Hole band is required for pMOS
- Better algorithms are needed to solve NEGF equations
 - Need diagonal elements of G_r and $G_{<}$ rather than blocks